

### **REMARKS**

A statement that the present application is the National Stage of International Application No. PCT/EP2003/003742 has been added immediately after the TITLE.

Claims 1 and 2 have been amended to replace the phrase "which comprises" with the word "comprising" to better conform to U.S. practice. These amendments do not change the scope of the claims in any way.

Claims 4, 9, and 11 have been amended to remove multiple dependencies to conform with U.S. practice and to minimize filing fees.

Claim 7 has been amended to recite a Markush group to better conform with U.S. practice. This amendment does not change the scope of the claim in any way.

Claims 13-17 have been added to present subject matter previously claimed in multiple dependent form in claims 4-8, respectively. Support for these claims is found in the specification at, for example, page 2, line 29 - page 3, line 23 and page 3, line 31 - page 4, line 12; in Examples 1 and 2; and in original claims 4-8. See *In re Gardner*, 177 USPQ 396, 397 (CCPA 1973) and MPEP §§ 608.01(o) and (I) (8<sup>th</sup> ed. Rev. 2, May 2004, pp. 600-73 and 600-81 to 600-82).

Claims 18 and 19 have been added to present subject matter previously claimed in multiple dependent form in claims 9 and 10, respectively. Support for these claims is found in the specification at, for example, page 2, line 29 - page 3, line 23 and page 4, lines 26-31; in Example 1; and in original claims 9 and 10. See *Id.*

Claims 20 and 21 have been added to present subject matter previously claimed in multiple dependent form in claims 11 and 12, respectively. Support for these claims is found in the specification at, for example, page 2, line 29 - page 3, line 23 and page 4, lines 21-23; in Examples 1 and 2; and in original claims 11 and 12. See *Id.*

It is submitted that no new matter has been introduced by the foregoing amendments. Approval and entry of the amendments is respectfully solicited.

Favorable action on the merits including entry of the Preliminary Amendment prior to examination on the merits and allowance of all the claims, respectfully, is requested. If the Examiner has any questions regarding this paper, please contact the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

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